

Journal of Adriaen Matham, 1640-1642

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Translated by Cor Snabel and Elizabeth A. Johnson

In 1640/41 Adriaen Matham accompanied Ambassador de Liedekerke on his mission to Morocco. He wrote a journal during their journey and he made several paintings and drawings, of which only a few have been saved. His journal starts like a ship's log with wind directions and course indications, but soon he stops writing every day. Once arrived in Barbary his reports become more detailed and interesting.

On the 1st September 1640 the ship "Gelderlandt" sailed from Texel, Holland, on a diplomatic mission to Morocco. On board were the Dutch Ambassador Anthonie de Liedekerke, Lijsbeth Jans with her brother-in-law Jacob Arissen, and the painter Adriaen Matham.

We made this translation from: Hellwald, Ferdinand de. Voyage d'Adrien Matham au Maroc (1640-1641). 1866. Marinus Nijhoff: The Hague. We have tried to keep our translation as close as possible to the original text. Our remarks/comments are put in the text between [square brackets].

Ambassador Anthonie de Liedekerke
Anthonie Charles de Liedekercke (1587-1661), born in Antwerp, was a naval captain.
In 1627 he married Willemina van Braeckel (1604/05- after 1661) in Amsterdam. After their marriage they settled in Haarlem and in 1638 their son Samuel was born.

Lijsbeth Jans
Lijsbeth Jans was one of the daughters of the notorious renegade Jan Janszoon van Haerlem and his Dutch wife Soutgen Caves. Another daughter of Jansoon's was married to Jacob Arissen, who was also on board the "Gelderlandt". Jan Janszoon (then living near Sallee, Morocco) also appears in this journal.

Adriaen Jacobsz. Matham (1599-1660) was a well-known engraver and painter from Haarlem, son of the even more famous engraver Jacob Matham (1571-1631). Adriaen was a close friend of the world-famous painter Frans Hals. In 1627 Frans Hals portrayed him as an Ensign on the "Banquet of the Officers of the Civic Guard of St Adrian (the Cluveniers)". In 1634 he was sponsor at the baptism of Frans Hals's daughter Suzanna.

The Journal, Translated:

Journal of the Mission of the Honorable Anthonis de Liedekerke sent to the King of Morocco by the Honorable Lords of the State-General of the United Netherlands, which journal was kept on board of the ship "Gelderlandt" by Adriaen Matham, painter.

On the 1st September Anno 1640 in the afternoon around four o'clock we hoisted anchor at Texel. The wind was east with a hard breeze, and heavy rainfall, and in the evening with the dusk we were underway. But when the wind fell, we drifted in stillness southwest, and southwest by west.

On the 2nd ditto. The wind southeast and calm.

On the 3rd ditto. The wind was northeast and about one o'clock in the afternoon we were within sight of the Calis Cliff. [Cap Gris Nez, southwest of Calais]

On the 4th ditto. Having northeast winds we set course to southwest and southwest by west, after that we set our course to northwest by west; around midnight west by northwest and northwest by west.

On the 5th ditto. The wind as mentioned before and in the morning we had Orney [the island Alderney] in sight aside from us, and set our course west.

On the 6th ditto. The wind running early in the evening west; setting our course southwest by west.
On the 7th ditto. The wind as mentioned, our course northwest and northwest by west.

On the 8th ditto. In the morning we had Goudstert [probably Start Point] behind us and could with this course sail to Pleymuijen [Plymouth], the wind as mentioned with a fair breeze and rain.
On the 8th ditto. In the morning the wind from south, setting our course more east. [Matham mentioned the 8th September twice in his journal, this should probably be 9th]

On the 9th ditto. &

On the 10th ditto. The wind southwest, we had reached Doode mans hooft [Dodman Point, a few miles west of Plymouth], &

On the 11th ditto.
On the 12th ditto. &.

On the 13th ditto. The wind northwest setting our course southeast by south, we were around nine in the morning between Hermontiers [probably l'Herbaudiere on the island Ile de Noirmoutier] and Heys. And we had trouble with a slight breeze, after that the wind ran westerly, and we set our course to south by southwest. At the end of the afternoon we had Heys aside of us and were getting a nice breeze, around midnight we came to the harbor of St. Marten [St. Martin de Ré] and dropped our anchor.

On the 14th ditto. &.
On the 15th ditto. &.
On the 16th ditto. &.
On the 17th ditto. &.

On the 18th ditto. We have hoisted the anchor at St. Marten and sailed to Ripperdoe [Rivedoux, on the island Ile de Ré before the coast of La Rochelle].

On the 19th ditto. We are at Rochelle, having sailed along by the forest there.

On the 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25th ditto. We have been cleaning the ship and getting fresh supplies.

On the 26th ditto. We hoisted the anchor and came that same evening to the harbor of Ripperdoe.

On the 27th ditto. &.
On the 28th ditto. &.
On the 29th ditto. &.
On the 30th ditto. &.
On the 1st October &.
On the 2nd ditto. &.
On the 3rd ditto. &.
On the 4th ditto. &.
On the 5th ditto. & until the first of November.

On the 1st November. We were again sailing. At first we had two or three days of fair wind taking us further towards Barbary, but when we got to the curve near Cape Finis Terrae [Cape Finnisterre, the northwest tip of

Spain] we got in such bad weather that we feared to lose our ship and our lives, principally because the ship appeared to be leaking at the stem and in other places. [See note 1. below]

On the 11th ditto. We arrived on St. Martensday [11th November, dedicated to St. Martin of Tours] at a good harbor at the island Belle Isle [Island before the coast of department Morbihan] in France, about twenty miles from the aforesaid isle St. Marten. [Dutch mile, equal to 5.5556 kilometers or 3 English miles]

On the 19th ditto. we have sailed from here and stopped at the tidal-flat along the island Hurck, one mile from St. Marten. This island is fully vegetated but unpopulated. There stands on the shore an old fallen-down cloister, wherein some years ago monks had lived.

On the 23rd ditto. We set sail again.

On the 26th ditto. With fair wind and good weather we passed by Cape Finis Terrae.

On the 27th ditto. We could see the mainland of Portugal.

On the 28th ditto. We sailed close to the coast in the morning. The Lord Ambassador has promised the sailors that the one who sees the first sail, and if that is an enemy-ship captured by us, will earn a reward of fifty guilders.

On the 29th ditto. In the morning we had the Barsez [Buarcos] in sight. These are five or six cliffs lying three miles from the mainland of Portugal. He who have never passed this point has to pay a ritual token to the sailors. [the Dutch text literally says: "doopgelt" = "baptism money"]

On the 30th ditto. We had northeast wind.

On the 1st December. We sailed forth with fine weather and came in sight of a very high mountain named the Vijgenbergh [possibly Foia mountain on the southwest tip of Portugal], which can be seen from at least thirty miles away. This mountain is situated in the mainland of Spain where the figs grow in plentiful amounts.

On the 2nd ditto. In the morning with the dawn we saw to lee a Turkish ship close-by. We prepared our cannons, set all our sails, and hunted him, and we came so close to him that we could reach each other with the muskets. But whatever we did we could not come close enough to be able to board it, which our crew had been eager to do. Around noon two more Turks joined them, but they kept to windward of us, far out of reach. In the afternoon three more appeared, so there were six in total. Still we could handle all six, but they did not pursue us and sailed away from us, so in the evening they were out of sight. The wind was east to south.

On the 3rd ditto. In the afternoon three of the above mentioned Turks came back, very close to us. We made ready and with full sails we set course towards them, when they recognized this they ran off again. The wind was east by southeast.

On the 4th ditto. We sailed with a nice breeze in the direction of the Canary Islands; today we have not seen any Turks or other ships. In the morning the wind was east, in the evening south.

On the 5th ditto. Our course continued towards the Canary Islands with a strong southeast wind, but in the afternoon we had another lull with a hard rain.

On the 6th ditto. Having variable winds, our course also varied, continuing our journey to Salee, the wind was west by northwest

On the 7th ditto. Our course continued, the wind was south.

On the 8th ditto. Wind west by southwest

On the 9th ditto. As we still had good weather with a southeast wind, towards the evening we had the Barbary coast in sight, but because night was at hand and the weather very dark, with a small sail we let her run out to the sea again.

On the 10th ditto. As the wind was southwest and we had good weather we set course for the coast, and in the afternoon we got in sight of the main land, and late in the afternoon we dropped our anchor in the harbor of Zalee. The Lord Ambassador ordered the crew to fire nine salutes, which were answered with four from the town and the castle. The next night we stayed there, not without some anxiety, because the wind was quite variable.

On the 11th ditto. In the morning the Lord Ambassador had a sail struck in hopes that the town would send some refreshments, but noticing that the wind started to turn to the southwest and with the terrible breakers along the coast, nobody came. In the afternoon we hoisted the anchor again, because we no longer dared to stay so close to the coast; because it is a dangerous port in which to lie at anchor.

On the 12th ditto. &
On the 13th ditto. &
On the 14th ditto. &.
On the 15th ditto. &.

On the 16th ditto. In the morning it got calm again, the wind east to south. In these areas we had a few days so warm, as we ordinarily have in Holland in the middle of summer.

On the 17 and 18th ditto. We still have good weather with a moderate breeze, but with the wind being south we could not manage to come close to the harbor of Saffia [Safi, harbor in Morocco on the Atlantic Ocean] or St Cruijs [Agadir].

On the 19th ditto. In the afternoon a strong southwest wind.
On the 20th ditto. The wind west to south in a big storm.
On the 21st ditto. A good wind north by northeast
On the 22nd ditto. The wind northeast.
On the 23rd ditto. The wind easterly.

On the 24th ditto. It was Christmas Eve. We reached the harbor of Saffia, where we fired fifteen salutes, but those were not answered by the town nor the castle.

That same day a boat came along and seven Moors came on board to trade with us, asking mainly for red caps, but for this first time they could not come to an agreement with the crew. Our Lord Ambassador gave them a letter for the Governor of Saffia asking permission to get water and fresh food from ashore, because the water had to be bought there. The above mentioned Moors promised to deliver us an answer to this letter in the morning. The appearance and clothing of these Moors is not very pleasant as one can clearly see in the drawings attached.
This day we had northerly wind with very fine weather. The crew began catching fish, but obtained nothing except sharks, and bream which tasted good.

On the 25th ditto. It was Christmas Day and very nice weather. In the afternoon the Moors along with some Jews came on board again, bringing with them two sheep, some hens, radishes, turnips and good bread, which was a gift from the Governor of the town in honor of the Lord Ambassador, along with his friendly greetings.

These fellows also had eggs and dates to sell or trade with us, but the prices were not acceptable to us, so they departed without doing business. But the Lord Ambassador gave them a tip for their effort. The same

day our people sailed ashore with the small sloop in order to inquire whether there was a possibility of buying some fresh water, but they found it would be too troublesome to accomplish, because of the strong surf along the coast. Ordinarily the wind here comes from the sea during the day and from the land during the night.

At the same time a secretary, or a clerk of the Governor had come aboard, equipped with pens and paper to make a report about the amount of powder and cannon-balls we had on board, which the Lord Ambassador politely refused to him.

On the 26th ditto. The Lord Ambassador has sent the boat ashore with Sr. Vander Sterre [Sr. = Secretary] to bring greetings on his behalf to the Governor, but the sea was so wild and the breakers so strong that Sr. Vander Sterre for safety was obliged to stay that night in the town.

On the 28th ditto. Our small sloop went ashore and returned with our people who had stayed for two days in Saffia. Along with them came a barque with Moors, bringing many kinds of provisions, such as two fine calves, which they sold to the Lord Ambassador for 15 guilders each, some fat partridges, which are bigger than the Dutch partridges, are less than one Dutch stuijver each [one stuijver = 5 cents]. The bread looks as good as the best egg-bread in Holland and such a good bargain that one could make two meals from one bread of three cents. They also brought a fine little goat, which I want to draw because of its exotic appearance, also some hens of two stuijvers; the wine made of dates in a special way, is good to drink and of a color like the sheeps's whey we have in Holland, and other baubles besides, too many to mention. And for the first time they made a good trade with our crew with mirrors and knives.

The skipper of the barque also brought two letters from Jan Janss. van Haerlem [see note 2. below] living in Muladie [Oualidia], six or seven miles from Saffia. One letter was written to the Lord Ambassador, the other to his daughter, who had come along with us on this journey to visit her father, whereof he was informed by special messenger from Saffia. He invited her very heartily to join him, sending along some refreshments as a gift.

But being informed of the dangers of travelling inland and particularly for females, she did not dare to do so. But it was agreed that her brother-in-law, who also had come along with us in our ship, would go to Muladie with the six or eight Moors whom his father-in-law had selected from his servants and sent from Muladie to Saffia as a convoy to escort them there. This occurred that same day.

Yesterday the barque of the Moors, on its way from our ship to the coast, was capsized by the heavy breakers and one of them drowned.

On the 29th ditto. When the Moors came on board again the Lord Ambassador negotiated with them about baking several hundred pieces of that good bread for the crew, which they had enjoyed so much.

On the 30th ditto. Jacob Ariss. came back on board with his father-in-law Jan Janss. van Haerlem (this Jan Janss. van Haerlem accompanied by 18 servants went part of the way from Maladie to meet his son-in-law) who sat comfortably in the barque on a rug and satin pillows, his servants around him. He was then led into the cabin of the Lord Ambassador, where his daughter was. When the father saw his daughter they both started to cry and after speaking with her for a while he took his leave of the Lord Ambassador, promising him that he would provide fresh water for us the next day, and that if the weather was good he and his daughter would visit us again on board. We had our doubts if this would happen, but only time will give that outcome.

While we were sailing along Portugal we put the statue of the Holy Ignatius on the transom of the ship, but now as we lie in the port of Saffia that is removed again.

Note: The Moors have in this time of year their fast, not eating before sundown.

On the 31st ditto. Our lieutenant went with both the steersmen and some deckhands and empty barrels in a boat to the shore to get some water. While the sloop stayed away from the breakers, the Moors got three of our men with the barrels ashore, but once filled the Moors did not want to let them go until Jan Janss. van

Haerlem, who still was in Saffia with his daughter and the brother-in-law, had paid nineteen pieces of eight [19 coins of 8 reaal] on behalf of the Lord Ambassador.

And because it was getting late in the evening and the gates there were closed early, the barrels had to stay inside the town, from which one was stolen by the Moors and another one was dashed to pieces on the rocks.

One or two of our crew had to swim through the surf in the evening to get to the sloop and a Frenchman who could not manage in the water had to stay ashore.

Our men reported that they had noticed that Lijsbeth Jans has had her fill of people and the country and consequently had wished to be on board again, but she would leave the next day with her father to Maladia, because his business would not allow him to stay away much longer.

On the 1st January A° 1641. Our crew went ashore with the small and the large sloop to get the water that had been left there. This was done, and Jan Janss. van Haerlem had already left with his daughter for Maladia.

Note: While the sloops were on their way to get the water on board this afternoon, an anchor-cable broke under water and in such a way that we had to leave it on the bottom. But when the sloops and the water were back on board we set sail. This breaking of the cable has not been bad luck but our good luck, we noticed that same day that the wind came from the sea so strong, that if we had stayed there we would have been in great danger of losing the ship. There were also ashore one thousand breads already backed, which we also had to leave behind there.

Our crew had caught a shark on New Years Day and when cut open it had three young sharks inside attached to her body like eggs, where the young sharks would come from, and already being born with fleece still attached, so one could be certain that they would stay close to the mother, like ducklings are used to do behind the ducks. And as long as the above mentioned eggs are attached to the body and being chased by other fish as food, the young could immediately hide inside their mother's body to be safe, which in my opinion is a remarkable thing. I have made drawings of one of those above mentioned young sharks in two different ways. [see drawing 19.1 and 19.2 in the original journal]

On the 2nd ditto. We had a big storm from the northwest. &.
On the 3rd ditto. Fairly good weather, the wind westerly.
On the 4th ditto. Variable weather and heavy rain with a southwest wind.
On the 5th ditto. We have northeast wind between Saffia and Magador [Mogador].

On the 6th ditto. The wind was northerly, and again we had land in sight, but in the afternoon there was such a strong wind that we had to set our course to sea again.

On the 7th ditto. In the morning we saw land again in fairly good weather, we had east by northeast wind and we saw many flying fish, as is shown in the drawings.

On the 8th ditto. We had the island Magador in sight, and set out our sloop to investigate a good harbor for us. We have found four fathoms of water and also on some places four fathoms and a half between the Duiven Eijlandt [pigeon island] and Magador island. In the afternoon we dropped our anchor and fired three salutes, which were answered from the castle with one shot.

On the 9th ditto. In the morning our sloop sailed with a northeast wind to the mainland to see if they could get some fresh water, and also if we could trade with the Moors of the castle, who welcomed our people very cordially. And they sent their interpreter, who was a Jew, to our ship, in whose place (according to their customs) one of our people had to stay ashore as hostage, until on both sides the one on our ship, as well as the one ashore, were released by others.

The castle is equipped with eleven or twelve iron pieces, and if you keep some distance it looks like a Dutch limekiln, but the Duiven-Eylandt is uninhabited, except for the wild pigeons, which nested there by the thousands on the cliffs, and are so tame that one can catch them by hand. There was a falcon on the ground in a little bush, which could have been caught by one of our people if he had seen it, because he almost stepped on its body with his foot, and only then the falcon flew up.

This Duiven-Eylandt is long about half an hour walking in length, and over than ten times the length of our ship and it is not wide, but very high and without fresh water, except between the cliffs some rainwater of small quantity.

Returning to Magador Island it happened that we managed to get fresh water there, the forenamed Jew delivered to us also fresh bread, almonds, raisins and olive-biscuits, which taste very good. The inhabitants here look comical in a habit, often going in long white sheets that they wrap in different ways around their body, sometimes they wear a small shirt underneath, in all, they are not very attractive in person or clothing. The before mentioned Jew explained to us the manner of their weddings &.

On the 12th ditto. Here it was the Moor's feast day of Easter, which with great devotion they celebrate.

On this island they raise a large and unusual sort of geese, which poultry we have bought here at the castle for 2 stuijvers each, which were very good and fat.

Concerning the water – fetching it on board happened with great difficulty because of the seething of the sea. So that our small boat with the men in it to bring the water aboard was twice violently turned over, namely on the 15th and 16th of this month and the crew were barely but not without great danger rescued. And the Governor of the castle had to be paid about one Dutch daelder for every barrel of water [a daelder is one Dutch guilder and fifty cents].

Note: it is remarkable that here in every week we celebrate three Sundays; the Moors on Friday, the Jews on Saturday and we on Sunday.

On the 23rd ditto. We have been busy to make everything ready for the journey, with God's help for St. Crux, if the wind will serve us, to sail away. And with a east by northeast wind we were pleased to depart from the port of Magador into the wide sea.

On the 24th, 25th and 26th ditto. In fine weather but with a contrary wind, which was east by northeast, our course was set toward Saffia to find our lost anchor, and to see if there was a response to the letter which the Lord Ambassador had written to the King of Morocco.

On the 27th ditto. We arrived at the harbor of Saffia, and we were informed that the King, knowing of our arrival, had given orders to arrange for a number of tents, pavilions, camels, horses, and to escort us from Saffia. Also that His Majesty had a good feeling about this Mission and intended to make a new alliance with the Honorable Lords.

On the 30th ditto. We have found our lost anchor again.
On the 31st ditto. &

On the 9th February. Our boat with our people went ashore and were informed there that the Lord Ambassador with his entourage was invited to come from his ship on the 11th; also that His Majesty of Morocco had charged the Governor of Saffia that he at time of our journey will provide for all of our needs.

On the 11th ditto. The Lord ambassador left the ship on a barque of the Moors with all his people and baggage, and was welcomed ashore according to the local customs with flutes, drums and a great number of musketeers, accompanied by the Governor of the town and by the forementioned Jan Janss. van Haerlem. There was a valuable horse led in for the Lord Ambassador.

It is to be noted here that after the Lord Ambassador had come ashore with the Moorish barque, I Adriaen Matham and secretary Sr. Vander Sterre were standing together on the beach waiting for the arrival of the Lord Ambassador, and I said: "it's time, Vander Sterre, that we walk towards the sloop". And when we went together, Vander Sterre was shot through his leg by one of the salutes fired by the Moors, so he fell to the ground. He was brought to the encampment, called the Duwaen [Douart, village of tents], and there he got fever and the next day, to the great sadness of us all, he passed out of this world.

The Governor made great inquiry in order to discover which Moore had used real bullets so he could punish him for this deed, but the man was hiding and could not be found. Mr Vander Sterre was buried in the night of the 13th to the 14th in the English warehouse by our encampment in den Duwaen, which was closed down that night.

Once from Saffia I made a three or four day trip to the castle of Maladia, the governor of which is Jan Janss, van Haerlem. By him I was entertained and welcomed very cordially. And for him I have drawn the castle with the entrance of the harbor, and the river, where the ships can lie at anchor.

After we had been in Saffia for almost three weeks we left on 7th March with the Lord Ambassador for Morocco [the city now called Marrakech], accompanied by about two hundred Moorish horsemen, who were commanded by a Frenchman called Monsieur Alkeijre Rammerdam [might be Hadji Ramadan (Aggi Romadan), a Venetian renegate]. His residence was in a castle one day away from Saffia.

On the shore of Mare Salines, a lake with salt water and a circumference of about one mile, we saw to our surprise that a lot of clean salt was gathered here, although this water was in the middle of the mountains, and situated nine miles from the sea. Yet about fifty paces from this water there were wells, where good sweet water was found.

These above mentioned horsemen who escorted us, did much to the amusement of the Lord Ambassador and his people, lots of amusing manoeuvres, riding their horses so surely and with such speed that it was amazing to see; some of them had rifles and long lances. But this fun was diminished by the thirst we were suffering. But the Laerbussen (who are the people that make their dwelling in tents on the land in places here and there) have come to two or three places to bring us camel-milk. But in general we suffered a lot of inconvenience on our way, and after four days travelling we reached the Royal town Morocco where we were heartily welcomed by a convoy of many soldiers.

On the 11th ditto. We arrived in this town and on the fourth day after that his Majesty granted an audience to the Lord Ambassador, we too had the honor to see his Majesty with our own eyes. The Moorish Easter was about to begin, which was celebrated for several days, so our mission had to wait.

On Moorish Easter Day the King rides, escorted by many great Lords and many thousands on horses and on foot accompanied by flutes, drums, trumpets, copper cymbals and other exotic instruments, to a certain place one hour outside of town. Once there the King dismounts from his horse and two rams are brought to him, the throats of which the King himself slits and lets them bleed to death. If these rams would bleed to death immediately, it would mean a bad omen for this empire, but if for a quarter of an hour's time they bleed while still alive it would mean a good omen, good luck, blessing and prosperity for the country.

But as it appeared that luck was on the King's side, because the rams had remained alive for a long time, there was great cheerfulness, and the King was welcomed at his court with singing, playing and dancing by more than two thousand women, those he married as well as his concubines, and all day by the great and the commoners was spent in enjoyment.

With respect to the architecture, the palace of the King is beautifully built, decorated with marble pillars, large gardens, ponds, and is said to have been built a long time ago by the Christians. On the palace is a very high tower, which is made in such an ingenious way that one can ride to the top while sitting on a horse.

There is also another tower on the palace, decorated on top with three apples made of massive gold, which are said to weight together about seven hundred pounds. The Moors wanted us to believe that these three

golden apples were under the spell of a sorcerer and that the devil would break the neck of those who dared to take them down; but we all laughingly rejoined that but half a dozen of our deckhands would be able to take these three apples down, believing that the Moorish devil would be more afraid of them than they would be of him.

Here within the walls of the palace is a large herd of camels which were brought outside during the day to graze, and in the evening come back home again.

The room in the palace where the Lord Ambassador had his audience with the King was beautiful. The second audience that the Lord Ambassador had was in the inner court with Basscha [Pasha] in the company of two other great Lords and with a secretary of the King. This Basscha is the first man in the country after the King and he is a polite, courageous and intelligent man.

The third and last audience of the Lord Ambassador was with the King, who treated him cordially, and with the Lord Ambassador discussed some proposals, after which the Lord Ambassador and we with due respect took our leave of the King. His Majesty honored the Lord Ambassador with a present of six horses, twelve falcons, two camels and one valuable saber, the blade on several places plated with fine gold.

I and another painter from Antwerp were requested in the name of the King to stay there for some time, with the promise of one ducat each day until retirement, but we had heard how other Christians had been misled with fine promises, we resolved that we would rather die than live our life among these godless barbarians.

Note: There is a palatial residence of the King's, situated a half hour outside the town Morocco, which was considered the most pleasant place in all of Africa. It is planted with fifteen thousand lemon trees with very high and graceful aqueducts that feed the fountains and the ponds rich in fish, all of which here is well worth seeing.

On the 8th May being Wednesday. Late in the afternoon we left the town Morocco, accompanied by some soldiers and English merchants, and made camp for the night at the other side of the river, two miles from Morocco; Along the way we saw the corn being mowed already in several places and being loaded on donkeys to bring it home, and on Friday we arrived in the afternoon at the castle of Alkeijr Rammerdam at the lake Salinas where we had our nightly rest; the next day we left again from there and we were escorted by the above mentioned Alkeijr Rammerdam as far as Saffia, where we arrived in the evening of 11th May.

On the 14th ditto, The Lord Ambassador returned aboard our ship again.
On the 22nd ditto. We hoisted our anchor for Saffia and after firing three salutes, with a northerly wind we set sail for St. Crux.
On the 23rd ditto. We still had good wind.

On the 24th ditto. We passed Capo de Geer [Cap Gihr, 120 kilometers north of Agadir] but then with such still wind we floated along the coast, which we had within sight for a long time, drifting off-course.

On the 25th ditto. We had an afternoon with a northerly wind which gave us some breeze, but later that afternoon it again became still, while we had the land of St. Crux in sight. Our crew made with the sloop to tow, but when the wind increased again, just after sundown, we came into the harbor of St. Crux, where we found and English and two French ships.

That same evening one Monsieur Lijbergen and some others came aboard the visit us an brought a letter from someone called Derwel, who was the broker of the imprisoned slaves.

Near St. Crux is a castle situated on a very high mountain, which seems to be hard to find.

On the 27th ditto. We received tiding from the castle of the brother of the Santon, [see note 3. below] that he had for hours been waiting; a Moor at the castle had fired a cannon which backfired and exploded onto him so that everything was hanging from his stomach such that all was lost, but he nevertheless stayed alive.

These days our crewmen caught a lot of fish [drawings 17, 18.1 and 18.2 in the original journal], and amongst them a strange looking sea-eel, it's skin beautiful speckled (as shown in the following drawing), length about three feet and is called in the Moorish language a 'Vrine', as explained to us by Monsieur Lijbergen, who for a long time has lived in Salee. In the evening we have boiled these eels, which are tasty white and fat as a fish and good to be eaten with vinegar.

On the 28th and 29th ditto. The weather was still good, and we received word that the Santon himself was expected to come to St. Crux, which would relieve the Lord Ambassador of much effort, because Jliego [probably Illigh, southeast of Agadir] is a 24 miles ride from here and the road is extremely treacherous.

On the 30th ditto. Towards evening the brother of the Santon with a great retinue came to St. Crux, and those on the castle were bravely firing salutes and we on the ships did not less, for now we had good hope for the release of the imprisoned slaves.

On the 31 ditto. The brother of the Santon has sent to us on board the tribute of two oxes and twelve sheep. The Lord Ambassador sent three men from our ship to the castle. They spoke extensively about the imprisoned slaves for a long time, and with satisfaction returned on board. It was said that his brother the Santon had given him carte blanche to negotiate with the Lord Ambassador about the imprisoned slaves.

On the 1st June. The Lord Ambassador himself has sailed ashore well escorted by his retinue. From the ship eight salutes were fired with the cannon, and all the muskets were fired three times.

On the beach down at the foot of the mountain on which the castle lies, stood the brother of the Santon with the Governor of St. Crux waiting for the Lord Ambassador, who handed over the presents to the brother of the Santon. And after that [they] spoke about the release of the slaves. But that day the agreement was not yet reached, although they remained in negotiations nearly all day as they stayed near the others on the beach. And towards evening they departed from each other in good contentment, with promises that the meeting would be resumed the next day.

That same evening two messages were sent to the Santon, while his brother pretended that the gifts were too poor, and that in this case, without further clarification from the Santon, he dared not speak in his name.

On the 2nd June. The Lord Ambassador again has sailed ashore, and with the brother of the Santon has so far negotiated that all the slaves of the first as well as [those of] the second stranded ship would be released, under the condition that the Lord Ambassador, beyond the presents already given, to the Santon would be paid the sum of two thousand ducats. And that the brother of the Santon within six or seven days in person would deliver here at St Crux all the slaves of both ships which were seventy-two in total. And this same brother, in order that no time would be lost, without further delay left to fulfil this contract at Jliego. Under this accord the Lord Ambassador has also freed an old Frenchman here who for [fully] forty years had been kept a slave.

While we waited with anticipation for the arrival of the slaves, our people had not been idle, but caught many fine fish for our daily food.

Note: The first captured ship was called "Erasmus van Rotterdam" [stranded near Agadir in May 1638], the crew had been about fifty strong, of which five had died, and one Oosterling had become Moorish [Oosterling = someone from east of the Netherlands, usually a German]. The second ship was called "de Maecht van Dordrecht" and had 28 men. Both ships had sailed forth in the service of the West-India Company.

On the 7th ditto. The Old Frenchman who for 40 years had been enslaved here has arrived with letters from the Santon for the Lord Ambassador, bringing very bad tidings, namely that the Lord Ambassador should pay five hundred ducats more than was agreed with his brother, and for that only the 45 slaves of the first stranded ship would be released leaving the other 28 slaves of the second ship to remain in their miserable slavery. For them little chance of an outcome of release could be hoped or expected; there will be no opportunity to free them during this mission.

These Godless people take little care in maintaining the contracts, promises and oaths they have made, because in the contract that the Lord Ambassador had made with the brother of the Santon, the slaves of the second ship were expressly included, as heretofore mentioned.

This old French slave stayed with us on the ship and told us about the miserable conditions of the forementioned slaves, namely bad provision of food and drink. And these men were also forced to perform heavy labor, so that one could imagine the sadness which these poor prisoners must have, to see their countrymen of the first ship leaving, while from this luck they were deprived, and forced to remain under the power of these unreasonable and merciless barbarians. The Lord Ambassador did not let that go by, but in all haste dispatched his response to the letters of the Santon by two horseback couriers.

On the 8th ditto. The Moorish captain Wallis has ridden out in order to fetch the 45 slaves.

On the 14th ditto. Around ten in the morning the 45 slaves who had come from St. Crux arrived, whereupon the Lord Ambassador had gone ashore and spoken to Captain Wallis and the other Moors and arranged that the slaves could come on board, who were so overwhelmed that they could hardly eat or drink. On their way they had been in convoy and in the custody of twenty horsemen, and not without great discomfort on the journey.

The Lord Ambassador had the flag containing the two thousand ducats brought ashore, in keeping with the agreement he had discussed with the brother of the Santon, but greatly complained that the agreement had not [nearly] been kept, noting that all the slaves of the two ships had therein been included. Nevertheless the Santon demanded for the remainder of the slaves another three thousand ducats, which was once again an unreasonable deal, however the Lord Ambassador was forced therefore, to make an offer of a thousand ducats, upon which a courier was dispatched to the Santon, seeking to obtain his approval.

The brother of the Santon was considered to be an intelligent, good and polite man. He had departed for a place called Mosse [Messa, abt. 50 miles south of St. Crux], located between St. Crux and Jliego, by which this place the slaves had to pass, and when he saw them there he said politely: “Friends, go with God, and I hope that God will guide all of you to your fatherland. I leave for Jliego to my brother and will arrange that the other slaves will also be given their freedom”.

Note: The Santon is a cruel and unmerciful man; when the slaves first arrived there, he said to them: "God has sent you all here, so that you could all together work for me, for I have not brought you all myself, and if it is God's will you may leave again." And now departing he said: "Go away, and come again in one or two years with a loaded ship to visit me, and to help me do my work again."

Following are the names of the slaves who had sailed with the ship "Erasmus van Rotterdam" on 17th April 1638 in the service of the West-India Company, and after having been stranded, under the Santon Sidali from Jliego in Barbary had fallen into slavery, and now by the Lord Ambassador are freed.

Chief merchant Jacob Adriaenss. Vander Wel, from Delft.
Common merchant Crijn Alderss. Coninck, from Delft.
Captain Ocker Willemss. Kruijfhooft, from Rotterdam.
Navigating officer Pieter Pieterss. Princelandt, near Den Briel.
Chief boatswain Leendert Francken Vander Horst, from Rotterdam.
Carpenter Cornelis Jacobss., from Rotterdam.
Assistant Hans Jeuriaen Bierboom, from Amsterdam.
Assistant Pieter Franss. Vander Wiel, from Delft.
Cook Cornelis Pieterss., from Santvoort [Zandvoort].
Quartermaster Philips Gerritss., from Delft.
Quartermaster Jan Barentse, from Rotterdam.
Quartermaster Simon Janss., from Rotterdam.
Boatswain Marten Hermanss, Vander Heij, from Rotterdam.
Soldier Jan Korts. Vander Neurs, from Leijden [Leiden].
Captain’s son Willem Ockerss. Kruijffhooft, from Rotterdam.
Barber Abraham Fort, from Baiona.

Soldier Simon Mulaert.
Boatswain's hand Jacob Janss. from 's-Gravesande.
Sailor Jacob Leendertse, from Den Briel.
Dominee Pieter Havenss, from Rotterdam.
Sailor Jan Aelbertse, from Haerlem.
Sailor Cornelis Hermanss., from Rotterdam.
Cooper Job Janss., from Rotterdam.
Cooper's hand Adriaen Tomass., from Rotterdam.
Provost Jan Janss., from Luijck [Liège, Flandres].
Sailor Dingheman Gijsbertss., from Brouwershaven.
Boatswain Leenaert Wouterss. Gaerpenning, from Rotterdam.
Hornblower Jan Fredericks s., from Rotterdam.
Cabin-hand Floris Theemissen Beddeman, from Rotterdam.
Cabin-hand Paulus Janss., from Rotterdam.
Sailor Laurens Jsackse, from Santvoort [Zandvoort].
Sailor Engelbrecht Willemss., from 's-Gravenhage.
Sailor Cornelis Claess., from Durkerdam. [Durgerdam]
Soldier Jacob Janss., from Rotterdam.
Soldaet Jan Janss., from Leijden [Leiden].
Soldier Jan Pieterss., from Santefoeij.
A boy Hendrick Jacobss., from Rotterdam.
A boy Hendrick Joriss., from Rotterdam.
A boy Dirck Lambertsen, from Rotterdam.
Soldier Jsack Jasperss., from Middelburg.
Sailor Dirck Dircksen, from Amsterdam.
Corporal of the rifle Huijber Pieterss., from Gorcum.
Sailor Jan Corneliss. Post, from Rotterdam.
Sailor Lambert Janss., from Leerdam.
Soldier Jacob Janss. Van de Velde, from Rotterdam.
The following men died in Jliego:
Sailmaker Jan Jan Pieterss. Peijesant, from Delft.
Soldier Pieter Janss., from Hoesum.
Boatswain Jacob Janss. Lerenbaert, from Gendt [Gand, Flandres].
Soldier Jan, from Bommel.
Boatswain Marten Dirckse, from Tessel.

Concerning the slaves of the other ship, there is no apparent sign that they would be set free, notwithstanding all the gravest efforts made by the Lord Ambassador, noting of the Godless Santon that his outrageous demands would not be reduced, such that they were forced to remain in this miserable slavery.

During the time we have stayed here, our people caught many fish, and the wind is ordinarily from the sea during the day and in the night from the land.

On the 6th of July towards the evening we set sail from St. Crux, setting our course toward Saffia, and providing the wind somehow will help us, we will return to that port and take on the horses and falcons which the King of Morocco had given to the Ambassador. This night with a northeast wind we ran into the sea awhile, however in the morning we still had Caep de Geer in sight.

Note: In St. Crux we received on board 43 [animals], bucks, goats as well as sheep, and fifty hens, and the three falcons sent to the Lord Ambassador as a gift.

Most of the trading our crew did with the Moors and the Jews, was in feathers, Indigo, yellow wax, arabic gum and dates, which grow in this country in great abundance. Pieter Moor and his son stayed on board with us, with the intention to convert to the Christian Religion in Holland.

On the 7th ditto. We had Caep de Geer still in sight.

On the 8 and 9th ditto. Having contrary winds we had to set a course toward the Canary Islands, because the northerly wind which we have had now for three days prevented us from sailing to Saffia.

On the 12th ditto. We had Madera in sight, hoping that same evening to have come into the port, but it had not been successful. The following night with a northeast wind and a good breeze we had reached as far as the Serters [Islas Desertas].

These Serters are sea-cliffs lying about three miles from Madera, uninhabited by people, but some folks believe that many goats and fowl are there.

The intention of the Lord Ambassador had not been to go to Madera, but the wind and the strong current had forced us to set our course to there. So towards the evening we came close to the island and the town Madera, when it became dead still, so that our crew was forced to row with all their might to come into the port.

The Lord Ambassador sent with a small boat a few people ashore with a letter to the Governor. Which people were heartily welcomed, and were politely entertained, and informed that what we had heard in Saffia and St. Crux, namely that the Portuguese had seceded from the King of Spain, and consequently also the Island and the town of Madera. And that an alliance and a union had been made with the Honorable Lords of the States General of the United Netherlands to declare war on the King of Spain.

The people with the small boat brought from the Governor a letter with a reply to the Lord Ambassador whereby the governor let the Lord Ambassador know that due to the union between his nation and ours, everything on the island would be at our service and that we would be very welcome, if the Ambassador would be so kind as to submit the Letters of Credence given to him by the honorable Lords and by his Highness my Lord the Prince of Orange, which credentials were showed without delay to the Governor of Madera.

Then he himself sent three esteemed men on board to us, in order to welcome the Lord Ambassador, and to invite him to dine with the Governor. Shortly thereafter yet another three came on board (as soon as the first had left) among them someone from Delft, named Sonneman, and they all expressed to us how pleasant our arrival there was.

Two hours later a Portuguese came on board again, with some refreshments the Governor had sent to the Ambassador as a gift; among these was a large barrel of excellent wine, fine conserves, fine pears, cherries, plums, grapes etc. two hams, turkeys and hens, in total a wonderful supply of refreshments.

--There were a few salutes fired from the ship, the big flag was hoisted and the trumpets were blown, so it was a day of joy. Towards the afternoon the Lord Ambassador with two Portuguese and the Delftenaar Sonneman, with some of his retinue went ashore with both the sloops. We fired seven salutes, and the musketeers also fired three salvos; those of the town have on the four castle that are there have each answered with three salutes.

When the Ambassador came ashore, there were a lot of people gathered and some companies, soldiers with muskets and flying flags welcomed the Ambassador. In the meantime we on the ship were very happy that we had again come into a Christian land and to hear the bells ringing, which for such a long time in Barbary we did not hear, because they had no bells there.

Furthermore we found here in the harbour eleven ships, English as well as Hamburgers, and today another three had arrived, namely one Englishman and two Portuguese caravels.

Madera is as beautiful an island as can ever be found, very nice to see, suitable for growing all kinds of fine fruits, as well as sugar cane, corn and so forth. The high mountains themselves are well planted with fruit-trees, the birds are there in abundance; in all it could be rightfully called an earthly paradise.

On the 14th ditto. Those of our people, who wanted to, were given consent to go ashore, where they enjoyed very much the delicious Madera wine, effects of which for a long time they had not been accustomed, so of

about hundred and fifty who went ashore, all of them came back again quite insensible.

On the 17th ditto. The Ambassador has returned on board again from the town, where the Governor and the other Lords had given him all honor and friendship.

I have drawn the entire island very precisely [here the drawings 29,30,31 and 32 of Matham are inserted in the original journal] and have found that on the island are three good harbors for the ships. Furthermore I found that the big church, a beautiful building, is a work of art, and nearly from bottom to top is gilded. In it are eleven altars, three chapels and two organs. The town is moreover supplied with an abundance of clergymen.

On the 26th ditto. The Ambassador on shore had said goodbye to the Governor, and to the Bishop, and has come on board again, while those from the castles and from our ship fired some salutes.

On the 27th ditto. Our large and our small sloop were sent ashore to get those of our people, to bring on board the people who had stayed there, leaving Cornelis van Haerlem sitting in prison in Fonciael [Funchal, capital of Madera].

That same evening we sailed forth.

On the 28th ditto. We have set our course to Saffia, in order to collect the horses and the falcons which we had left there. But due to a strong and contrary wind, we could not in eight day's time sail to Saffia but had fallen below there. So because our first sight of the Barbary coast was somewhat higher than Mogodor, we feared that for lack of victuals, we might have to set our course to the Fatherland without the horses or the falcons.
It is notable that while we were drifting not far from Madera in a lull, a shark for a long time had circled around the ship, accompanied by many fish which are called Pilots. Our crew threw out hooks, and one of those even became fastened to this shark, but by the weight and the great power and the force he used while being hauled in, he escaped again, and by estimation he may well have been twenty feet long.

On the 7th August toward noon we had such variable wind, that within the time of one glass [an hourglass of 30 minutes] we had to change directions four times.

On the 8th ditto. Due to the foggy and humid weather we could not see the land, and our ship has become so leaky that the crew had to pump eighteen hundred heaves in eight glasses.

On the 9th ditto. In the morning we were beginning to see the land again, but when we came closer we found that we were far below the south hook of Saffia.

On the 12th ditto. Toward afternoon (praise God) we have dropped our anchor before Saffia.

On the 13th ditto. Our people has caught many of fish at Saffia, bream as well as others.

A part of the earlier mentioned ten thousand pounds of bread which the Lord Ambassador had ordered to be baked in Saffia, was brought on board.

On the 14th ditto. Five beautiful falcons were brought on board.

On the 22nd ditto. One of our people of the officers-quarters, caught a shark as we lay off the coast of Saffia, in whose stomach, to our great surprise, a chameleon was found. [see drawing 21.1 in the original journal].

That same day Jacob Arissen has come aboard again from Maladia, leaving Lijsbeth Jans to stay with her father.

On the 27th ditto. We hoisted our anchor again, and come closer to the north-corner of Saffia and somewhat further from the land, we let the anchor fall to the bottom again.

On the 29, 30, 31st ditto. We have taken a load of fine wheat on board.

On the 1st and 2nd September we took on board a load of yellow wax.

On the 3rd ditto. Again we received on board two horses and seven falcons.

On the 4th ditto. Towards the evening from Saffia we began sailing with a northeast wind, setting our course toward the Vlaemss Eijlanden [Flemish islands = Azors]; we fired three salutes.

From the 4th up to the 12th ditto. With very good weather we have sailed up to the latitude of 37 degrees, mostly going northwest by north, or north by northwest.

On the 13 and 14th ditto. We have had some better wind, although variable and calm weather etc.

Between the 18 and 19th ditto. In the night, with a lively breeze, while sailing before the wind, suddenly and unexpectedly a storm came up, so that the topsails were torn to pieces, before we could take them in.

And the wind became sharper and the storm increased, the mainsail , the mizzen sail and all that was out was shredded to pieces.

So all that night and the following day not one sail in the world could we use.

We drifted on God's mercy in a heavy tempest and in great danger of losing ship and life, until in the night between the 19th and 20th September the weather calmed somewhat, although with a headwind.

In the foregoing storm while drifting without sails, three full waves struck into the ship, whereby the galleon was smashed to pieces and the pieces were drifting in the sea. And everything on the whole ship creaked.

Sixty hens drowned, and from the cold and the wetness four falcons died, but all of our crew (thank God) remained undamaged and unhurt. Around this time we were at the latitude of forty-two degrees and thirty-five minutes, not far from Caep Finis Terrae.

On the 21st ditto. Again we got lovely weather, but the wind remained north-northeast. Our people dried their kit-bags and clothing.

On the 22nd ditto. In the night we had a good southwest wind, and with full sails made good progress.

On the 23rd ditto. The wind South. We set our course toward the Channel.

On the 25th ditto. Great dismay has arisen among our people, because due to the foggy weather we strayed in the wrong channel, having assumed that on the one side we had Garnzeij and Ornaij [Guernsey and Alderney], and on the other side the Island Wicht [Isle of Wight], but we discovered to our great sorrow that we had strayed into the wrong channel about the island Sondi [Lundy, in the Bristol Channel, along the coast of Devon].

The wind was southwest with a hard rain, such that one could hardly see beyond two ship-lengths. We were then in so much trouble, that according to human judgement it would be impossible to escape death, but only by the sake of God's merciful will we were released from this trouble.

Because in the worst case if the weather had not improved and the wind had not decreased, then we would have grounded on one of the two sandbanks, stranding in the middle of the wrong channel [Bristol Channel] , whereof one was called Werwickx [Helwick Sands], the other Nealsandt [Nash Sands].

And our ship could have been struck into a thousand pieces, without the smallest chance of saving our lives, or that anyone would have knowledge of where the shipwreck had been.

After this great setback our people again came to grips; after much turning and wending, in the dark of the evening we came into the harbor before the town of Tinbij [Tenby] in Wales England. Being a very treacherous harbor, all our anchors, save only the bow-anchor, were lost here. In this sorrowful night every wave spilled over our ship, so we thought the ship was sinking, and we said our last prayer seeing no other outcome than death.

Our large sloop was wrecked into pieces and drifted into the sea. At the main mast two men stood ready to cut it, holding back with the intention that as soon as the daylight would come, in order to save our lives the ship would be run aground onto the most suitable place.

But God Almighty has forstalled it by turning the wind, which changed to the west in the morning, so that we (praise God) with the ship got out of this miserable harbor, leaving behind two anchors, and we came into the harbor of Wilfortshaven [Milfordhaven, Wales].

On the 19th October. We set sail from Wilfordtshaven, setting our course for Sorles [Isles of Scilly] or Engelandts Endt [Lands End, the most south-westerly point of England], and so after many difficulties, sailed into the correct channel, the wind being northwest.

On the 20th ditto. In the morning we had the island Londij [Lundy] aside of us; the weather was good and favorable; the wind still northwest. That same day on the ship our crew caught a good and fat woodcock and also 3 or 4 sparrowhawks, which were tired of flying, and had come to rest in the masts and other places on the ship.

On the 21 ditto. We have had easterly winds, and northeast, with calm weather, and in three consecutive nights with bright moonlight we passed between the Sorles [Isles of Scilly] and Engelandts Endt. Towards the morning we reached, praise God, the correct Channel.

On the 22 and 23rd ditto we have had calm weather, with reasonably good wind from the south, and south to southwest, and in the Channel we had many ships around us.

On the 27th ditto. We had the Island Wicht [Isle of Wight] in sight; the wind was northeast.

On the 28th ditto. The wind was northeast.

On the 29th ditto. We have had a strong wind from the east, so we could not sail into Wicht.

On the 30th ditto. The wind had come from the northeast, and had changed into a storm, so we could not sail on the main sails, which forced us in the afternoon to set our course toward Pleijmuijen [Plymouth], which also happened, and the next night we had to let her run with a mainsail and with the mizzen sail, but in the night during the midwatch the strong wind and the hard rain completely let up and the wind became southeast. In the morning the wind was again east, and fair weather, and we had Goudtstart [Start Point] within sight.

On the 31st ditto. In the evening we came to the port of Pleijmuijen, but it was so late that we could not come into the harbor. That night we had hard rain and in the morning the wind was west to northwest with calm and pleasant weather.

On the 1st November we hoisted our anchor in the afternoon and sailed a bit further into the harbor, but due to a lull we had to drop our anchor again and do that in a dangerous place between some cliffs. But, praise God, it stayed calm, and in the early night with the rising tide we again hoisted our anchor, and with a breeze from the east we came to a suitable place. We sailed thereby along one of the castles, so we fired three salutes, which were answered from the castle with one shot.

On the 3,4,5,6 and 7th ditto. Due to contrary winds we stayed at Pleymuijen. But on the 8th ditto in the morning we had a good west wind, and with calm weather we hoisted our anchor, along with all the other ships which had lain in the harbor of Pleijmuijen. Toward the evening the wind somewhat increased.

On the 9th ditto. With hail, thunder and lightning, a great storm came up, so we lost our main sail[.] --The wind was north, and also north to northeast, so that we, along with many of the ships sailing with us, had to drift without sails. But towards the evening the weather was somewhat calmer and then we had the wind west-northwest.

On the 10th ditto. We had Doveren [Dover] and Calais in sight, and we sailed close to the English coast, to stay nearer the upper coastline. Once past the heads, those ships which had to be in Zeeland or into the Maes [river Maas], separated from us after each firing a salute, answered by us.

The wind was west to northwest. The next night we had a hard wind again, but from the southwest with a steady breeze, and so we continued our journey.

On the 12th ditto. With the wind still southwest, in a great rainstorm, by God's mercy through many troubles we safely reached Tessel [island Texel], but the wind was so violent that we dared not come in to anchor at the Schilt [De Schild, harbor-town on Texel], but instead had to endure as far as Vlieter, below the island Wieringen.

NOTES

Note 1. (see 1st November 1640)

Here they probably turned back to France for the necessary repairs. That would explain the gaps in Matham's journal between 1st and 11th November, when they arrived at the island Bell Isle. The second gap between 11th and 19th November was probably needed for the repairs.

The Dutch Republic was still at war with Spain (the eighty-years-war ended in 1648), so the ship Gelderlandt would not be welcome in any Spanish port. And the diplomatic mission of Ambassador Liedekerke was on it's way to Morocco, another enemy of the Spanish King.

Note 2. (see 28th December 1640)

Simon de Vries in "Handelingen en geschiedenissen voorgevallen tusschen den Staet der Vereenichde Nederlanden en dien van de zee-roovers in Barbarijen" [page 57]:

In the slaughter-month [November] of the year 1623 a terrific storm developed at sea, which caused great damage to ships and goods. Because of this terrible turbulence two Turkish robbers were forced into the canal and so on along the moles into ter Veer [Veere] in Zeeland. Here their severely damaged ship had to be repaired, and also provisions taken on as their own were all gone.

The one leader was a Renegado, or renounced Christian, from Haerlem. He also had some Dutch sailors on board. The wife and children of this notorious leader came to beg him earnestly and constantly to leave this ship and to stay with her. Daily the parents of the other Dutch crewmembers did the same; but they could not persuade them in any way. On one hand they were too embittered at the Spaniards, on the other hand too keen on the prizes.

The above mentioned Jan Jansz. van Haerlem had joined the Turks under the Veenboer, and had in time climbed up from the lowest to the highest position. It was not enough for him, that he, to gain imaginary temporary happiness, had forsaken the Lord Christ, had murdered his soul, had rejected his salvation, but he also encouraged other Christians, by showing them his captured treasures, to leave Christianity, and let them be circumcised; which was actually done by some godless ones. This Admiral Jan Jansz. van Haerlem has even turned Salee within a few years into a notorious robber's nest, like Duynkercken [Dunkirk] used to be. Now it has begun to get rich, where it used to be an unimportant place.

Note 3. (see 27th May 1641)

David Pietersz. de Vries reports in his journal [Vol II, page 72] about the name Santon, which played an important role in Morocco. "These Santons descend from the Alarbes; and are in Mauritania divided in

two different groups. The first lives in the mountains and are the Nobility of the country, from excellent families. They are trained for war at young age, and persevere in it until the end of their life. They raid caravans or traveling groups, beat the people dead and often obtain large prizes. Sometimes they plunder complete cities or settlements. They are the wildest and most uncivilized of this country; no laws, justice or manners. That's why they are treated in the same way, if defeated by others. The other group are the Nobility of the plains, living in tents on the fields. They are ruled by a headman, named Zeck; who judges over crimes, and is in command over every aspect. His subjects sew wheat, rye and other fruits of the field. Both groups stick together. Each group can sometimes supply five thousand horses, each with his own man, to go to war. They often move to another place, all together breaking down their tents and building them up elsewhere. More information about their habits are given by us in the third part of our: Curieuze Aenmerckingen der bysonderste Oost- en West-Indische verwonderenswaardige dingen, page 105".

Note 4.

The original manuscript is illustrated with many drawings made by the author, an artist himself.

1. **Caption: “Nieuw Sale” – quill**
2. **View of Safi and surroundings - on two sheets - ink**
3. **Portrait of Ambassador Liedekerke - pencil**
4. **Caption: “Ds Rychardus Theodori Verhaer, prolector in nave Geldriacensi” - pencil**
5. **A crew member – on parchment - brush**
6. **Same crew member – on parchment - brush**
7. **Same crew member – on parchment - brush**
8. **Caption: “Achmet Bousnack” - pencil, brush , living colors.**
9. **Caption: “Agor Bayma, musikant van den Kayser van Marocco” [Agor Bayma, musician of the Emperor of Morocco] – on parchment - brush**
10. **Two drawings: 1. Moor sleeping on the ground. - 2. Caption: “Elias Plet, hovenier van Kayser van Marocco” [Elias Plet, gardner of the Emperor of Morocco] - brush**
11. **Two drawings: 1. a kind of Hammock – quill 2. Three sailors playing cards. - quill and brush**
12. **Caption: “En Moorse Koken” [Moorish kitchen] - brush**
13. **Two drawings: 1. Caption: “Een Moor van Magador, op syn Sondaechs geclaet” [Moor from Magador, dressed in his Sunday clothes] - quill 2. Caption: “Der Mooren drinck Kroeg van leer gemaekt [Moor drinking from a leather mug] - pencil and ink**
14. **Caption: “Mooren naar het leven getekent door Adrian Matham” [Moors drawn from life by Adrian Matham], four persons - ink**
15. **Same caption: seven Moors - ink**
16. **Two drawings: 1. A fish, caption: “gevangen aent Eylandt Mogador, den 19 januaer 1641” [caught at Mogador Island, on 19th January 1641] - pencil 2. Same subject. - quill**
17. **Caption: “Een Cruys Heij gevangen te S. Cruz den 27 mey 1641” [A (Cruys?) shark caught at St. Cruz on 27th May 1641] - pencil**
18. **Two drawings: 1. Caption: “Een Vis genaemt Murena, lanch tuijm 3 voeten, gevangen by St. Cruz den 27 mey 1641” [A fish called Murena, length well over 3 feet, caught at St. Cruz on 27th May 1641] - brush 2. A fish - pencil and brush**
19. **Two drawings: 1. A Fish. - ink and brush 2. Same subject, caption: “gevangen voor de Stadt Saffia, lang ruijm 3 voeten” [caught before the town Saffia, length well over 3 feet] - pencil and brush**
20. **Caption: “Een onbekende vis langh 2 voeten en een half, gevangen voor Zaffia” [an unknown fish length 2 feet and a half, caught before Zaffia] - ink**
21. **Two drawings: 1. caption: “Een Camelioen naar ‘t Leven”. [A chameleon drawn for life] – ink 2. A fish. - brush**
22. **Caption: “Een Heede Heij oft mensch Eeter, gevangen byt Eylant Mogodor den 16 january 1641 [A Heede [?] shark or man-eater, caught near Magador Island, 16th January 1741] - pencil**
23. **A large fish. - pencil, quill and brush**
24. **Caption: “Het casteel van ‘t Eylant Magadoor” [The castle of Magadoor Island] - pencil and brush**

25. Caption: ""t Eylant van Magadoor, alias duijven Eijlant". Extra caption: "T Eijlandt van Magadoor genaemt het duyven Eijlandt leijt op de Polus Hoochte 31 graden en 8 minuten" [The island of Magadoor aka Pigeon Island is situated at 31 degrees and 8 minutes " - on two sheets - pencil and brush
26. Caption: "Serters" [a group of cliffs near Madera] - ink and brush
27. Caption: "De stadt Marocco, 2de gedeelte" [the town of Morocco, second part] - ink and brush
28. Caption: "Marocco, 3de gedeelte" [Morocco, third part] - ink and brush
29. Caption: "Madera" " on 4 sheets - quill and brush
30. Caption: "Vervolch ofte het tweede gedeelte van "t Eijlandt Madera" [continuation or the second part of the island Madera] - on 3 sheets - quill and brush
31. Caption: "Madera, aen d"andere zijde. Eerste deel" [Madera, on the other side. First part] - on 4 sheets
32. Some sketches - on 3 sheets

Note 5.

Four rich merchants from Amsterdam, Samuel Sautyn, Pieter Trip, Celia Marcellis and his brother Gabriel Marcellis, sponsored this mission. In several documents from the States General's archives (which are kept in the National Archives in The Hague) we can see that Ambassador Liedekerke had a hard time defending his expenses, because according to the four merchants he went way over budget. A committee of government representatives finally decided on the 20th of June 1642 that the four merchants had to pay these extra costs from the profits they had made on this voyage.

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Culture d'Islam: Aux Sources de l'Histoire

http://www.culture-islam.fr/contrees/maghreb/adrien-matham-description-et-voyage-vers-marrakech-1640

English translation by Duck, DuckGo browser of French version qhich follows.

Adrien Matham, Description and journey to Marrakech, 1640

Praise

O priceless city of Merrakech, widely known

From the point where the sun rises to the point where it sets!

Your garden, a marvel, surpasses all the gardens of kings
In radiance, in works of art, in greenery.
Your orchard, which is called Meserra,
Is a magnificent cradle, always enchanting.

We see with pleasure there green on all sides
Orange trees with beautiful foliage, clumps of lemon trees.

The date palm grows there and, leaning over its female,
It fertilizes the flowers with its fragrance alone.
Many fruit-laden olive trees rustle there through the air,
Pointing their tops to the sky.
Streams meander and flow gently,
Offering to view waters clearer than crystal.
But listen, illustrious city: they say 3 that your walls,

So wide and so high that they were built, will crumble,
And your Meserra will remain alone,
That is to say, the soul will remain when the body has perished.
Everything that the sun gilds with its rays

Must, however great, fall to the ground;
Everything ends, finally, of what began;
Time, fast time changes everything.
[…]
For this reason I find it good, dear Fatherland, of ATOUS ferre to participate in that, by means of the embassy of Monsieur Antoine de Liedekercke, who, by order of the Most High & Powerful Lords the States of the Provinces- Nations of the Netherlands, & of His Highness of Orange, by him was feted to the King of Morocco, the whole remarked, & put by crajon 3 on papyer, & engraved on copper; which will be grateful, benign Reader, to the very artist in the portreture & soft tallie Adrien Matham, who, with his own eyes, saw it in fact, & by him the whole brought to light, as it is mentioned if -in front, for service &

After the year 1640, on the 1 day of November, we went out in front of the island S. Martin, where we had been the space of 6 weeks, we came, on December 9, to discover the coasts of Barbary, beaten of many contrary winds, storms & thunderstorms, not without great danger from our ATies often, until finally, on the 24 dito, we arrived at the roadstead which is in front of Asafia, from where, both by
the fear that we had of being thrown by the winds and storms on the low side that for the love of some other islands and hazards that we were looking for, and that we also came to the front, we sometimes weighed anchor and returned again at sea until February 1, when our lord the ambassador went ashore with all his retinue, where he was magnificently received at Asafia, in the manner of the country, with bugles, drums & a large number of mosquetarians, accompanied by the very noble governor of the city, & the alkeir Jan Janszen of Haerlem, having before him a very richly dressed horse.

And, after we had been some 3 weeks in Asafia, our said Mr. Ambassador left on the 7th of March from there to Marocco, some 4 days away from this city Asafia, being likewise one of the main seaports of all

this coast of Barbary; to which trip our ambassador was convoyed & accompanied by about 200 Moorish horsemen, over whom commanded, on behalf of the King, the sieur alkeir Rammerdam, a French national, who holds his residence on a castle one league from A[sa] fia, on the shore of the Mer Salines, which is a lake about a league in circumference, from which is gathered an abundance of good salt, which ours contemplated with great admiration, being this place well 9 miles distant from the sea , & seated among high mountains; & about 50 paces from salt water, is found in then cool & sweet water. These said horsemen, who escorted us, did, to the honor of our sr. ambassador & of all of us, several & various pastimes & nice skirmishes on horseback, of such roundness & speed that it was a thing at all admirable to see, some estans armed with light harquebuzes & lunge pikes. Being thus on the road, we endured great thirst (the heat of these countries being very great), including the Larbusses", being in a people who here and there have their dwelling in the flat country in tents, came to us in two or three places to present to drink camel's milk, from which we relieve a little our thirsty heart, as long as on the fourth day (after our departure from Asafia, & after having suffered quite a lot of inconvenience on the way) arrivals safe and sound at Marocco; where our Mr. Ambassador with his retinue was likewise very magnificently received, & on the fourth day after his arrival had an audience with His Royal Majesty of Morocco, to whom the Ill. Ambassador remonstrated the charge & commission of the Most High & Powerful Lords, the States-General, & His Highness of Orange.

I do not want to make a long speech of the approval that the King & the great Moroccan dens had of the story made by Mr. the Ambassador & his family concerning His Highness Mons. the Prince of Orange, & of his high heroic fects, in matters of hardly, in the Netherlands, & as the same people were not afraid enough to be satisfied by the hearing of the particular great victories [that], against great & may monarch that is the king of Spain, by the blessing of God, under the great & wise conduct of the most renowned His Highness of Orange, from time to time, to the astonishment of all the world, fortunately have acquired; from which it appears that the famous slavery of arrivals in his Netherlands, by conjecture, of the high thoughts of His Highness, has been effected, & even the parts of the unknown world are apparent to be filled.

The same alleged sr. among other things, the ambassador carried out that 45 Christian slaves were set free, and brought them back to our dear homeland, who had been held prisoners there for the space of 3 and a half years, under very cruel and barbaric servitude of a terrible tyrant, named Sidi Ali, santon of St. Cruze, distant about 70 leagues from Maroco.

Customs: circumcision (excision?)
The king of Marocco holds an extremely splendid state, and besides these people there are several strangers; to us redicules ceremonies; and divine services, which nevertheless they practice and; exercise with much more zeal than often most Christians do theirs. All men are circumcised there, according to their laws which they hold from their prophet, against whom the female sexse have their circumcision quite of a different kind, of which we will not treat the particularity, for reason oblige us to this effect. .
Slavery of the Turks:
They agree in circumcision with the subjects of the Grand Turk, & hold like them to the law or the Alcoran of Mahomet, but nevertheless have between them some difference, which means that they do not bear such hatred & envy, that we ourselves have seen that some Turkish slaves, taken prisoner, were there in as harsh servitude as some of our Christian slaves.

Ayd Royal:

The Easter of the Moriscos is approaching precisely during questions in the Court, which feast is celebrated among them a few days away. The King, on Easter Day, rides with the pasha & several other great lords on horseback, & rides in great magnificence about an hour from the city, being the King dressed in the most magnificent royal robes. Over his head is held a shade or pavilion, & for the rest is accompanied by several thousand people both on horseback and on foot, demanding excessively great joys & joys with all kinds of music, sounding bugles, drums & trumpets, & we play on basins of brass & several other very strange instruments.

And, having come to the assigned place, the King dismounts from his horse, and two rams are presented to him there, to which he himself cuts their throats, and then leaves them there to lord it. From what they derive then, after an augury or assured omen; because, if these rams, after being bled, die soon after, we conclude from there for them and their country a lot of evil and adversity; but if, on the contrary, these

rams bleed a quarter of an hour or more before giving up their spirits, they take this for a sure sign of good luck, and that the following year they will enjoy happiness in their country & prosperity.
Precisely, when I was there, this bleeding lasted according to his wish for a long time; whereupon the King witnessed great joy and rejoicing, and on his return to the court was sent to his palace by more than 2,000 (both concubines and other women) who by songs, games and dances, made in their own way, with great reverence and joy led him to his palace; & the rest of the day is spent in all sorts of pleasures & pastimes, eating well & drinking no less.

Newborn Feast:

Also held at the same time is the triumphant feast of the birth of the newly born king, from whom the Queen came to lie on those days; which feast was also celebrated with many testimonies of joy, as well as fires and various other ways that they have in these countries, to show their rejoicing.

Diplomacy:

Our Mr. Ambassador & his retinue, during these two months that we were in Marocco, received as many honors & service as no one in the world could wish for more, even much more than any potentate and Christian would customarily to show to any ambassador, demonstrate through this how much the courtesy which is natural to the Most High & Powerful Lords the Estates & our coming were welcome & pleasant to them,

The King's wives :

The king of Morocco has, in addition to his 4 married wives, another 200, who are kept in various rooms by a few eunuchs from different nations.

Muezzin:

There are no bells in these countries, here they are forbidden by the laws of the country, so much so that they have to judge the weather according to the course of the sun. Against the evening, as also against midnight and at dawn, there are everywhere guards on the towers, who shout at each blow: "Halla, Halla, Halla, Machomet Roshalla"; to which one can roughly conjecture how it goes with time.

Mosque and prayer:

It was by no means permissible for us to set foot in their temples or pious houses, but well, while remaining outside at the door, to look inside, as long as there was nothing notable to see, as long as only a few burning lamps . And when they themselves enter there to do their service, they first wash themselves from foot to cape, and then, wearing their shoes, enter the temple. It is not allowed for any woman, being still in a state of being able to bear fruit, to enter there, thus only to young girls of 8 to 9 years old at most, & to old & superannuated women; the others can practice in the manner of the country in their houses. About half an hour before their sermon begins, a white flag is thrown out of the tower, and the sermon having begun, it is withdrawn.

Marrakech:

The inhabitants of Marocco have a strong imagination & full confidence in certain prophecy, made for a long time on the city of Marocco, whose content, reduced in rithm, can be seen here in our place above the great tower. This city of Marocco is one of the largest & magnificent in the whole world, & very full of people, & frequented daily by various nations of the neighboring countries, who trade there.

Jews and Negroes:

The Jews have a place there in the city, where they have their dwelling as a whole, being provided with walls all around, which they close again, notably at night; & is this place so large in its circuit that it alone could rightfully pass for a fairly large town. The Jews give some contribution to the King, & are themselves the main farmers of the King's income. The wives of these are entirely white, but those of the natives, yellow-brown; & besides this, there is another kind as black as any black could be: which triple diversity found me very strange to see in one & the same city.

El-Badi:

As for the royal court of Marocco, of which we represent to you the very exact portrait drawn to the quick, it is an unparalleled place, having no palace or royal house in the world comparable to it, surpassing by many , as much in grandeur as in sumptuousness & splendor of building, all that can be found; & consequently must [not] only be held for an eighth miracle of the world, but could justly be reputed and called the marvel of marvels'.
The tower which is in the palace is so artificially elaborated within, & made with such industry & practice,

that even the King being on horseback can climb there to the very highest & pinnacle of the tower, as twice we saw him during questions there; & would have gladly contemplated what this structure was inside, but, even though with great courtesy we were shown everything that was both inside and outside the royal palace, whenever & whenever we wanted to.
However, to set foot inside their temples or towers, this could not be permitted to any Christian, as in fact, from our first arrival, we were strictly forbidden to do so; and in the event that any one, being warned, nevertheless comes to transgress the commandment, it is necessary without any mercy that he chooses one of two things, either to die at the same time, or else to be circumcised according to their laws.

Volery
Also we saw, with great admiration, that, every day around the vesper, there assembled around this tower an infinite and incredible multitude of some birds, among which there were falcons, vultures and still another kind very strong. similar to falcons; of which birds, after they had fluttered for about half an hour around this tower, some took their cue in the hollows and vaults of the tower, & the others, being indeed the greater part, spread themselves over the trees du Montseraet, or on some old houses & mazures.

storks
Note that in our country it is commonly said and made to believe that in no kingdom do storks feed or live; however, we found the opposite here, because for the space of a whole year, we saw these birds by the hundreds feeding in this royal court. & produce their young there in very large numbers. And it was told to us as true by various persons very worthy of faith, that these storks are always and continually at war and debate with these other birds, which we have said flit around the tower, like falcons, vultures and the like; but that once having fought for three or four days with great animosity, and having pecked themselves with such rage and fury that on both sides there were an infinite number of people killed,

Menara?
Also seen here is the garden or place of pleasure of the King, named Montseraet, so eminent in all sorts of pleasures and beauty that there is no pen that can sufficiently express it. The very pleasant water descending from the mountains enters this garden or place of pleasure on one side, & again on the other, passing through a channel raised from the ground well the height of three men, & filled with fish of a very appetizing taste. This garden lies about half an hour from the town, and is planted with fifteen thousand very delicate lemons, and as many oranges, and date palms, the fruits of which far surpass in pleasure and sweetness of taste almost all that is found there. other countries ; also there are thirty-six thousand olive trees. As for the very sour and amicable odor of all these beautiful fruits, and the grumbling and very soft & pleasant song of the birds, which besides being still adorned with feathers of indescribable beauty, it is easy to judge how much this must bring contentment. Also by the Barbarians themselves is this place held and reputed to be the most pleasant of all Barbary: the country is there, almost everywhere where one takes the trouble to cultivate it, fertile & of good return, reserved for the stony and loamy mountains. . There are several felonious and wild animals, like tigers and lions, which have their lair in ruined cities and old mazures, of which there are several in this country. Also by the Barbarians themselves is this place held and reputed to be the most pleasant of all Barbary: the country is there, almost everywhere where one takes the trouble to cultivate it, fertile & of good return, reserved for the stony and loamy mountains. . There are several felonious and wild animals, like tigers and lions, which have their lair in ruined cities and old mazures, of which there are several in this country. Also by the Barbarians themselves is this place held and reputed to be the most pleasant of all Barbary: the country is there, almost everywhere where one takes the trouble to cultivate it, fertile & of good return, reserved for the stony and loamy mountains. . There are several felonious and wild animals, like tigers and lions, which have their lair in ruined cities and old mazures, of which there are several in this country.

Koutoubia Tower:
Also does not deserve less admiration another thing that we still see in this royal court, also another tower, which, in addition to what inside & outside it is very artistically built, still has for ornament at the top 3 pommels d'or, together weigh 700 pounds; which knobs, besides the value of the price, are abundantly commendable for the singular ornament they bring to it. The Moriscos hold it as true that, if anyone wanted to presume to remove these pommels from there, that at the same moment the Devil would not fail to twist his collar, & rush him from top to bottom, since the pommels are adjured there by egromantic art. Cerlain bassa, who willingly had removed these pommels from there, pierced them with a few musket shots, but nevertheless dared not approach them, fearing to be badly treated & to have the collar broken by the

Devil. The said bassa made, some time ago, an irruption in the court of this king of Marocco, & crushed it completely, the King being forced to flee; any time by negligence & misconduct of the aforesaid bassa & his people, was again driven out, & the King, taken refuge by his people, repelled in Marocco & restored to his first dignities, estates & honour.

Camels and Lions:
Also we see in the Court a large number of camels, which during the day we graze in the fields, and in the evening we bring them back, being a very pleasant thing to see how the young people follow the A' them in such good order.

Moreover, there is still another particular court, or garden enclosed in this court, where there are three lions & 2 lionesses who keep themselves there for the contentment & pleasure of the King, & show themselves to foreigners when it is necessary. opportunity. In this garden there is also a large quantity of orange and lemon trees, and besides these various kinds of very delicious and tasty fruits, as well as herbs and flowers of such a singular smell, that, to use them in medicine, they far surpass anything that grows in these countries here.

Adrien Matham, Description et voyage vers Marrakech, 1640

Eloge

O ville inestimable de Merrakech, largement connue

Du point où le soleil se lève jusqu'au point où il se couche !

Ton jardin, une merveille, dépasse tous les jardins des rois
En éclat, en oeuvres d'art, en verdure.
Ton verger, qu'on nomme Meserra,
Est un berceau magnifique, toujours enchanteur.

On y voit avec plaisir verdir de tous côtés
Des orangers aux belles frondaisons, des massifs de citronniers.

Le dattier y croît et, penché sur sa femelle,
Il en féconde les fleurs de son seul parfum.
De nombreux oliviers chargés de fruits y bruissent à travers les airs,
Pointant leurs cimes jusqu'au ciel.
Des ruisseaux y serpentent et coulent doucement,
Offrant aux regards des eaux plus claires que le cristal.
Mais écoute, illustre ville : on dit 3 que tes murailles,

Si larges et si hautes qu'on les ait bâties, s'écrouleront,
Et que ton Meserra restera seul,
C'est-à-dire que l'âme subsistera quand le corps aura péri.
Tout ce que le soleil dore de ses rayons

Doit, si grand soit-il, tomber à terre ;
Tout cesse, enfin, de ce qui a commencé ;
Le temps, le temps rapide change toute chose.
[…]
Pour ceste raison je trouve bon, cherre Patrie, de ATOUS ferre participent de se que, par le moyen de l'ambassade de monsieur Antoine de Liedekercke, qui, par ordre des Très-Hauts & Puissans Seigneurs les Estats des Provinces-Unies du Pays-Bas, & de Son Altesse d'Orange, par lui fut fette au roy de Marocco, le tout remarqué, & mis par crajon 3 sur du papyer, & gravez sur du cuivre; duquel aura gré, bénin Lecteur, au très-artiste en la portreture & tallie douce Adrien Matham, qui, de ses propres yeux, l'a veu en effect, & par lui le tout mis en lumière, ainsi qu'il est mentionné si-devant, pour le service & utilité de tous espris scavens & curieux.

Après que l'an 1640, le 1 jour de novembre, nous estions sortis devant l'isle S. Martin, où nous avions esté l'espace de 6 semaines, nous vinsmes, le 9 décembre, à descouvrir les costes de Barbarie, battus de beaucoup de vents contraires, tempestes & orages, non sans grand danger de nos ATies souvent, tant que finalement, le 24 dito, nous arrivasmes à la rade qui est devant Asafia, d'où, tant par la crainte qu'avions d'estre jette par les vents & tempestes à bas bord que pour l'amour de quelques autres isles & hazards que cherchions, & que nous vindrent aussi au devant, nous levions par fois l'ancre & rentrions de rechef en mer jusqu à l' 1 feburier, lors que nostre seigneur l'ambassadeur descendit à terre avec toute sa suite, où il fut magnifiquement receu à Asafia, à la façon du pays, avec clairons, tambours & grand nombre de mosquetaires, accompagné du très-noble gouverneur de la ville, & l'alkeir Jan Janszen d'Haerlem, ayant devant luy un cheval très richement apparaillé.

Et, après qu'avions esté quelques 3 semaines à Asafia, nostre dit sieur ambassadeur partit le 7 de mars de là vers Marocco, distante de quelques 4 journées de chemin de ceste ville Asafia, estant pareillement un des principaux ports de mer de toute ceste coste de Barbarie ; auquel voyage nostre ambassadeur fut convoyé & accompagné par environ 200 cavalier morisques, sur lesquels commandoit, de la part du Roy, le sieur alkeir Rammerdam, un François de nation, qui tient sa residance sur un chasteau à une lieuë d'A[sa]fia, sur le rivage de la Mer Salines, qui est un lac d'environ une lieuë de circuit, d'où se cueille abondance de bon sel, que les nostres contemplèrent avec grande admiration, estant ceste place bien 9 milles distante de la mer, &

assise parmi des hautes montagnes ; & environ 50 pas de l'eau salée, se trouvée dans des puis l'eau fraîche & douce. Ces dicts cavaliers, qui nous escortèrent, firent, à l'honneur de nostre sr. ambassadeur & de nous tous, plusieurs & divers passe-temps & gentiles escharmouches à cheval, d'une telle rondeur & vistesse que c'estoit une chose du tout admirable à veoir, quelques uns estans armés de harquebuzes légères & piques longes. Estans ainsi par chemin, nous endurasmes grand'soif (la chaleur de ces pays estant très-grande), dont les Larbusses", estans un peuple qui çà & là ont au plat pays leur demeure dans des tentes, nous vindrent en deux ou trois endroits présenter à boire du laict de chameaux, de quoy nous soulagames un petit nostre coeur altéré, tant qu'au quatriesme jour (après nostre départ d'Asafia, & après avoir soufferts par chemin assez grandes incommoditez) arrivasmes sains & saufs à Marocco ; où nostre sieur ambassadeur avec sa suite fu pareillement très magnifiquement receu, & au quatriesme jour après son arrivée eust audience auprès de Sa Majesté Royale de Marocco, auquelle l'Ill. Ambassadeur remonstra la charge & commission des Très-Hauts & Puissans Seigneurs, les Estats-Generaux, & Son Altesse d'Orange.

Je ne veux point ferre ysi un long discours de l'agréation que le Roy & les grans dedens Marocco eurent du récit faict par Mr. l'Ambassadeur & les siens touchant Son Altesse Mons. le Prince d'Orange, & de ses hauts heroïcque fects, en matière de guère, dedans se Pays-Bas, & comme les mesmes ne se peurent assez rasasier par l'ouye des particulières grandes victoires [que], à l'encontre de sy grand & puissent monarque qu'est le roy d'Espagne, parla bénédiction de Dieu, sous la grende & le sage conduicte de plus renommé Son Altesse d'Orange, de temps en temps, à l'estonnement
de tous le inonde, heureusement avons acquise ; duquel paroist que l'esclattente renommée des arrivées en ses Pays-Bas, par les conjecture, desains des haute pansées de Son Altesse, ont esté effectué, & mesme les partie du monde incognue est apparent d'estré rempli.

Le mesme allégué sr. ambassadeur a entre autre effectué que 45 esclaves chrestiens ont esté remis en liberté, & les rameina quant & soy dans ceste nostre chère patrie, lequels avoyent esté là détenus prisonniers l'espace de 3 ans & demi, sous servitude très-cruelle & barbare d'un terrible tyran, nommé Sidi Ali, santon de St. Cruze, distante environ 70 lieues de Maroco.

Coutumes : circoncision (excision ?)
Le roy de Marocco tient un estât extrêmement splendide, & outre ce ont ces peuples plusieurs estranges ; à nous redicules cérémonies ; et services divins, lesquels neantmoins ils practiquent et; exercent avec beaucoup plus de zèle que souvent la pluspart de Chrestiens ne font le leur. On y circoncit tout masle, selon leurs loix qu'ils tiennent de leur prophète, à l'encontre duquel le sexse féminin ont leur circoncision tout d'un autre sorte, desquel nous ne trecteront point le particularitez, pour raison nous obligent à cet effect.
Esclavage des Turcs :
Ils s'accordent en la circoncision avec les sujets du Grand Turc, & se tiennent comme eux à la loy ou l'Alcoran de Mahomet, mais ont neanmoins entre eux quelque différent, qui fait qu'ils n'entreportent telle haine & envie, que nous-mesme avons veu que quelques esclaves turcs, faits prisonniers, y estoyent en aussi dure servitude que quelques uns mesmes de nos esclaves chrestiens.

Ayd Royale :

La Pasque des Morisques s'approchoit justement lors questions en la Court, laquelle feste se célèbre parmi eux quelques jours de loin. Le Roy, au jour de Pasque, monte avec le bassa & plusieurs autres grands seigneurs à cheval, & va en grande magnificence à environ une heure de la ville, estant le Roy vestu. de ses habits royaux au plus magnifique. Onluy tient sur sa teste un umbre ou pavilion, & au reste est accompagné de plusieurs milliers de personnes tant à cheval qu'à pied, demenans excessivement grandes joyes & alegresses avec toute sorte de musique, sonnans du clairon, du tambour & trompettes, & jouans sur des bassins d'airain & plusieurs autres instrumens bien estranges.
Et, venu au lieu assigné, le Roy descend de son cheval, & on luy présente là deux béliers, ausquels luy-mesme les coupe la gorge, & puis les laisse là seigner. De quoy ils tirent puis après un augure ou présage asseuré ; car, si ces béliers, après estres saignés, mourroyent tost après, l'on conclud de là pour eux & leur pays beaucoup de mal & adversité ; mais si, au contraire, ces béliers saignent un quart d'heure ou d'avantage avant rendre l'esprit, ils tiennent cela pour un signe asseuré de beaucoup de bon heur, & que l'année ensuivante ils jouiront en leur pays de félicité & prospérité.
Justement, lors que fusmes là, ce saignement dura selon son souhait longtemps ; de quoy le Roy tesmoigna très grande joye & resjouïssance, & à son retour en la court fut envoyé en son palais par plus de 2 000 (tant concubines qu'autres femmes) qui par chansonettes, jeux el danses, faites à leur mode, avec grande

révérence & alegresse le conduisirent dans son palais ; & le reste du jour se passe en toute sorte de plaisirs & passe-temps, bien mangeants & non moins beuvans.
Fête du Nouveau Né :
Aussi se tient à mesme temps la feste triomphante de la naissance au roi noveau né, duquel la Reyne vint à gésir ces jours là ; laquelle feste se célébra aussi avec beaucoup de tesmoignages de joye, comme de feux & diverses autres manières qu'ils ont en ces pays, pour faire paroistre leur resjouissance.

Diplomatie :
Nostre sieur ambassadeur & sa suite, durant ces deux mois qu'estions à Marocco, receurent autant d'honneurs & service que personne au monde n'en sçauroit souhetter d'avantage, voire beaucoup plus que nul potentaet chrestien n'a coustume de monstrer à aucun ambassadeur, demonstrans par cela combien la cortoisie qui est naturelle aux Très-Hauts & Puissants Seigneurs les Estats & nostre venue leur estoyent bienvenues & agréables,

Femmes du Roi :
Le roy de Maroco a, outre ses 4 femmes mariées, encor 200 autres, qui se gardent en diverses chambres par quelques eunuques de différentes nations.

Muezzin :
Il n'y a en ces pays nulles cloches, icelles y estans defandues par les loix du pays, tellement que de nécessité il leur fault juger du temps selon le cours du soleil. Contre le soir, comme aussi contre la minuict & sur la poinct du jour, il y a par tout des gardes sur les tours, qui crient à chaque coup : « Halla, Halla, Halla, Machomet Roshalla » ; à quoy l'on peut faire à peu près conjecture comment il en va du temps.
Mosquée et prière :
Il ne nous estoit nullement loisible de mettre pied dans leurs temples ou maisons pieuses, mais bien, en demeurant dehors à la porte, y regarder dedans, combien qu'il n'y ait rien de notable à veoir, que tant seulement quelques lampes ardentes. Et quand eux-mesmes y entrent pour faire leur service, ils se lavent premièrement de pied en cape, & puis ayans deschaussés souliers, entrent au temple. Il n'est permis à femme quelconque, estant encor en estât de pouvoir porter fruict, d'y entrer, ainsi seulement aux jeunes fillettes de 8 a 9 ans au plus, & aux femmes anciennes & surannées ; les autres se peuvent exercer à la façon du pays en leurs maisons. Environ une demi-heure avant que leur prédication commence, l'on boute hors de la tour un drapeau blanc, & la prédication estant commencée, on le retire.

Marrakech :
Les habitans de Marocco ont une forte imagination & pleine fiance en certaine prophétie, faite dès long temps sur la ville de Marocco, dont le contenu, réduit en rithme, se peut veoir icy en nostre pourtraict au dessus de la grande tour. Cette ville de Marocco est l'une des plus grandes & magnifiques de tout le monde, & fort pleine de peuple, & fréquentée journellement de diverses nations des pays circumvoisins, qui y negotient.
Juifs et Negres :
Les Juifs y ont dans la ville une place, où ils ont leur demeure par ensemble, estant pourveue de murailles tout autour, laquelle ils referment, notament les nuicts ; & est ceste place si grande en son circuit qu'elle seule à bon droict pourroit passer pour une ville assez considérable. Les Juifs donnent quelque contribution au Roy, & sont eux mesmes la pluspart fermiers des revenus du Roy. Les femmes de ceux-cy sont du tout blanches, mais celles des naturels, brun-jaunes ; & outre ce, y a une autre sorte aussi noire qu'aucun noir pourroit estre : laquelle triple diversité trouvasmes fort estrange de voir dans une & la mesme ville.

El-Badi :
Quant à la court royale de Marocco, de laquelle nous vous représentons le pourtraict fort exactement tiré au vif, c'est une place sans pareil, n'y ayant palais ni maison royale au monde aceomparable à icelle, surpassante de beaucoup, tant en grandeur qu'en sumptuosité & splendeur d'édifice, tout ce qui se peut trouA'er ; & par conséquent doibt [non] seulement estre tenu pour un huictiesme miracle du monde, mais pourroit à bon droit estre réputé et nommé le merveil des merveilles '.
La tour qui est au palais est si artificiellement elaburée au dedans, & faicte avec telle industrie & practique, que mesme le Roy estant à cheval y peut monter jusques au plus haut & pinacle mesme de la tour, comme par deux fois nous le vismes pendant questions là ; & eussions fort volontiers contemplé quelle estoit ceste structure au dedans, mais, quand bien avec très grande courtoisie on nous avoit monstre tout ce qui estoit tant au dedans qu'au dehors du palais royal, toutes & quantes fois qu'en estions désireux.

Toutesfois pour mettre pied au dedans de leurs temples ou tours, cela ne pouvoit estre permis à aucun chrestien, comme de fàict, dès nostre première arrivée, on nous en avoit faict defence bien stricte ; & cas venant que quelcun, estant adverti, vînt neantmoins à transgresser le commandement, il fault sans miséricorde quelconque que de deux choses il en choisisse l'une, ou de mourir à l'heure mesme, ou bien d'estre circonci selon leurs loix.

Volerie

Aussi avons-nous veu, avec grande admiration, que, tous les jours environ la vesprée, il s'assembloit autour de ceste tour une multitude infinie & incroyable de quelques oiseaux, parmi lesquels il y avoit des faulcons, vautours & encor autre sorte fort semblable aux faulcons ; desquels oiseaux, après qu'ils eurent voltiges environ un grand démi-heure autour de ceste tour, quelques-uns prindrent
leur giste dans les creux & caveaux de la tour, & les autres, estans bien la plus grande partie se repartirent sur les arbres du Montseraet, ou sur quelques vieilles maisons & mazures.

Cigognes

Notez qu'en nostre pays on dict comunement & on se faict accroire qu'en nul royaume se nourrissent ou s'entretiennent aucunes cigognes ; de quoy neantmoins avons icy trouvé le contraire, car, l'espace d'un an tout entier, avons veu icy ces oiseaux par centaines se nourrir en ceste court royale. & y faire leurs petits en très-grande multitude. Et nous fut raconté pour véritable par diverses personnes très-dignes de foy, que ces cigognes souloyent estre tousjours et continuellement en guerre & débat avec ces autres oiseaux, qu'avons dict voltiger autour de la tour, comme faulcons, vautours & semblables ; mais qu'une fois ayans combatus trois à quatre jours durant avec grande animosité, & s'estans bequetés d'une telle rage & furie que de part & d'autre il y en eust un nombre infini de tués, ils ont depuis vescu par ensemble en bonne paix & concorde, tellement qu'à présent ils s'assistent (comme avons veu journellement) flanc à flanc, sans s'entremordre ou se faire mal quelconque : chose vrayement notable & digne de considération, si ainsi est qu'on la peut croire.

Menara ?

Aussi se veoit icy le jardin ou lieu de plaisance du Roy, nommé Montseraet, tant eminent en toute sorte de plaisirs & beauté qu'il n'y a plume qui le puisse suffisament exprimer. L'eau très-agreable descendant des montagnes entre d'un costé dans ce jardin ou lieu de plaisance, & sorte derechef de l'autre, passant par un canal relevé de terre bien la hauteur de trois hommes, & rempli de poissons d'un goust très-appetissant. Ce jardin gist environ à une demi-heure de la ville, & est pourplanté de quinze mille très-delicats citrones & autant d'orangies & datiers, dont les fruicts surpassent de beaucoup en plaisance & douceur de goust presque tout ce qui se trouve es autres pays ; aussi y a il bien trente-six mille oliviers. Quant à l'odeur très-souëve & amiable de tous ces beaux fruicts, & le gringoltement & chant très-doux & plaisant des oiseaux, qui outre ce y sont encor ornés de plumes d'une beauté indicible, il est facile à juger combien cela doibt apporter du contentement. Aussi est par les Barbares mesmes ce lieu tenu et réputé pour le plus plaisant de toute la Barbarie : le pays y est, presque partout où l'on prend la peine de le cultiver, fertile & de bon rapport, réservé aux monts pierreux et limoneux. Il y a plusieurs animaux félons & sauvages, comme tigres & lions, qui ont leur repaire dans des villes ruinées & vieilles mazures, desquelles il y en a plusieurs en ce pays.

Tour de la Koutoubia :

Aussi ne mérite pas moins d'admiration une autre chose qu'on voit encore en ceste court royale, aussi un autre tour, laquelle, outre ce qu'en dedans & dehors elle est très artistement bastie, a encor pour ornement en haut 3 pommeaux d'or, pezans ensemble 700 livres ; lesquels pommeaux, outre la valeur du prix, sont d'abondant recommandables pour l'ornement singulier qu'ils y apportent. Les Morisques y tienent pour véritable que, si quelcun voudroit présumer d'enlever de là ces pommeaux, qu'au mesme instant le Diable ne manquaroit à luy tordre le col, & le précipiter de hault en bas, attendu que les pommeaux y sont adjurés par art egromantique. Cerlain bassa, qui volentiers eust enlevé de là ces pommeaux, les transperça de quelques coups de mousquet, mais n'osa neantmoins s'approcher d'iceux, craignant d'estre mal traitté & d'avoir le col rompu par le Diable. Le dit bassa fit, il y a quelque temps, une irruption dans la court de ce roy de Marocco, & la pila entièrement, le Roy estant contraint de prendre la fuite ; toute fois par négligence & mesconduite dudit bassa & ses gens, en fut derechef chassé, & le Roy réfugié par les siens repellé dans Marocco & restabli dans ses premier dignités, estats & honneur.

Chameaux et Lions :

Aussi veoit-on en la Court grand nombre de chameaux, lesquels de jour l'on meine paistre aux champs, &

de soir on les rameine, estant une chose fort plaisant à A'eoir comment les jeunes suivent les A'ieux en si bel ordre.

De plus, il y a encor un autre court particulière, ou jardin enclos dans ceste court, où il y a trois lions & 2 lionesses qui s'y gardent pour le contentement & plaisir du Roy, & se monstrent aux estrangers quand il en est occasion. En ce jardin se veoit aussi grande quantité d'orangiers & citroniers, & outre ce diverses sortes de très delicieux & savoureux fruits, comme aussi des herbes & fleurs d'une odeur tant singulière, que, pour s'en servir en medicamens, elles surpassent de loing tout ce qui croît en ces pays icy.

[The palace of the King of Morocco in Barbary, c.1646-51. View of the palace, c.1646-51]. In Cassiano Dal Pozzo 1588-1657; OCLC Number: **1079184608**

ABSTRACT: This information has been transcribed from: The print collection of Cassiano dal Pozzo : ceremonies, costumes, portraits and genre / Mark McDonald. Part C.I of The paper museum of Cassiano Dal Pozzo : a catalogue raisonné (3 volumes, Royal Collection Trust 2017): Departing from the island of Texel (North F.W.H. Hollstein, 'Dutch and Flemish Etchings, Engravings and Woodcuts, ca. 1450-1700', 72 volumes, Amsterdam, 1949-2010 ; and 'German Engravings, Etchings and Woodcuts 1400-1700', i-, Amsterdam/Rotterdam, 1954- (in progress)nd)

on 1 September 1640, Adriaen Matham accompanied the Dutch ambassador Anthonie de Liedekercke (1587-1661) on a diplomatic mission to Morocco that aimed to renew the alliance between the two countries. Another purpose of the journey was to negotiate the release of men captured from a Dutch ship that had been stranded near Agadir two years earlier. (The subject of Europeans captured by the Moroccans is addressed in another print in this album) **The diplomatic party returned to the Netherlands on 12 November 1641. Matham produced a remarkable series of drawings of the mission (when? After returning?), including portraits of crew members and people he encountered in Morocco, and views of the Sultan's palace, from which he made the present engraving** (F.W.H. Hollstein, 'The New Hollstein: Dutch and Flemish Etchings, Engravings and Woodcuts, 1450-1700'; and 'The New Hollstein: German Engravings, Etchings and Woodcuts, 1450-1700', Rotterdam, 1993- (in progress) [Adriaen, Jan and Theodoor Matham I], pp. xxxi-xxxiii).

He also wrote a detailed account of the journey, 'Journael vande Ambassade vanden Heer Anthonis de Liedekeke wegens hael Ho. Mo. de Heeren staeten Generael vande verenichde Nederlanden gesonden naer den Coninck Van Marocco, welk iournael gehouden is op het schip "Gelderlandt" door Adriaen Matham constrijk schilder', which provided the basis for an extensive letterpress description published in 1646 as a sheet that ran along the bottom of the view, Dutch at the left and French at the right (A. Matham, 'Voyage d'Adrien Matham au Maroc (1640-1641): Journal de voyage publié pour la première fois avec notice biographique de l'auteur, introduction et notes par Ferdinand de Hellwald', The Hague, 1866, pp. 39-87). Only the French letterpress survives in Cassiano's collection. A second state of the view was published by Hugo Allard the Elder (British Museum, Prints & Drawings, T,7.102).
This information has been transcribed from: The print collection of Cassiano dal Pozzo : ceremonies, costumes, portraits and genre / Mark McDonald. Part C.I of The paper museum of Cassiano Dal Pozzo : a catalogue raisonné (3 volumes, Royal Collection Trust 2017):

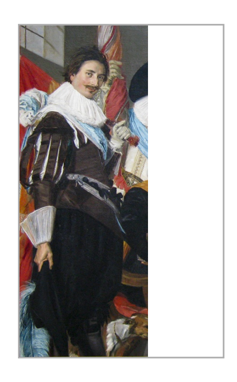
At the upper centre of the print is a cartouche containing a poem by Matham.

To the left is a portrait of the sultan at the time of the Dutch mission, Muhammad Sheikh al-Seghir (reg. 1636-55). At the right is a portrait of Liedekercke based on a painting by Jan Cornelisz. Verspronck (1597-1662) now in Haarlem (Frans Hals Museum, OS I-333; N. Köhler (editor), 'Painting in Haarlem 1500-1850: The Collection of the Frans Hals Museum', Ghent, 2006, no. 465).

The caption beside the portrait describes Liedekercke as aged 64, but he was born in 1587 and would not have reached this age until 1651, five years after the date of the letterpress.

The principal buildings and elements seen by the visiting party (lettered A-L) are explained in the key on the following folio. The ambassador is depicted on horseback towards the right (L).

Adriaan Matham (1599?-1660)



Country :	Corée avant 1948
Language :	Dutch; Flemish
Gender :	Masculin
Birth :	Haarlem (Pays-Bas), 1599
Death :	La Hague (Pays-Bas), 23-11-1660
Note :	Graveur. - Peintre
Variant of the name :	Adrien Matham (1599?-1660)
ISNI :	ISNI 0000 0001 1839 2426 (Information about ISNI)

Activities of Adriaan Matham (1599?-1660) (6 resources in data.bnf.fr)

Iconographic works (4)

[Collection Marolles. Oeuvre des Matham]

"[Recueil. Oeuvre de Adrien, Jacques et Théodore Matham]"
with Adriaan Matham (1599?-1660) as Illustrator

[Emblèmes]

[Recueil. Oeuvre de Adrien Matham]

Cartographic works (1)

Palatium magni. Regis Maroci in Barbaria... Vue de Marrakech en 1641
(1641)

Textual works (1)

Voyage d'Adrien Matham au Maroc (1640-1641)
(1866)

Themes related to Adriaan Matham (1599?-1660) (5 resources in data.bnf.fr)

Places (1)

Marrakech (Marrakech-Tensift-Al Haouz, Maroc)

Sciences sociales. Sociologie (1)

Emblèmes

Littérature générale (1)

Descriptions et voyages

Géographie (1)

Descriptions et voyages

Géographie du reste du monde (1)

Maroc

Authors related to "Adriaan Matham (1599?-1660)" (10 resources in data.bnf.fr)

Authors linked as engraver (4)

Willem Hondius (1597?-1658?)

Jacob Matham (1571-1631)

Theodor Dirck Matham (1606-1676)

Daniel Van Den Bremden (1587?-1649?)

Authors linked as illustrator (3)

Jacob Matham (1571-1631)

Adriaen Pietersz Van De Venne (1589-1662)

Theodor Dirck Matham (1606-1676)

Authors linked as draftsman (1)

Jacob Matham (1571-1631)

Authors linked as editor (1)

Ferdinand von Hellwald (1843-1884)

Authors linked as collector (1)

Michel de Marolles (1600-1681)

See also (7 resources in data.bnf.fr)

In BnF (1)

Equivalent record in Catalogue général

On the Web (6)

Equivalent record in Dbpedia

Equivalent record in ISNI

Equivalent record in Wikidata

Equivalent record in IdRef

Equivalent record in VIAF

Equivalent record in Wikipedia Francophone